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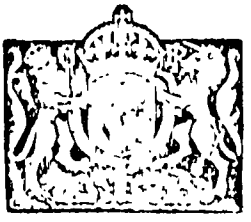


OF THE
BOMBAY
BRANCH
OF THE
ASIATIC

Annual Report

on the

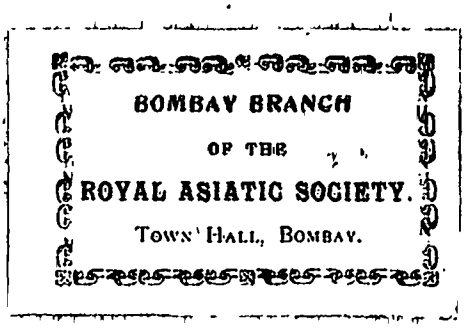
Administration of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1929

For the year ending 30th June 1933

(Price - Pies 6 or 1*d*.)

BOMBAY
PRINTED AT THE GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS
1933

Obtainable from the Superintendent of Government Printing and Stationery, Bombay, or through any High Commissioner for India, India House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2, or any booksellers appointed Booksellers



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THE BOMBAY MATERNITY BENEFIT ACT, 1929.

REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING THE 30TH JUNE 1933.

Returns were received from 374 of the 389 factories amenable to the Act. The few factories that did not submit returns employed few women and probably did not pay any benefit.

2. The usual statistical information is appended. The number of benefits granted increased by 335 to 5,790 and the amount paid by about Rs. 7,300 to Rs. 1,35,813-3-2. These increases were accompanied by a decrease of 3,815 in the number of women employed so that it is clear that the privileges conferred by the Act are being increasingly availed of by factory women.

3. Employers in the large factories continued to treat claims liberally and, apart from a few exceptions, claims are dealt with more in the spirit than the letter of the Law.

4. The statistics published in this and the previous years indicate that the maternal mortality amongst textile women is very low. Thus only 41 of the 5,790 benefits were paid to other persons. It would be unwise to assume that the former figure represents the total maternal mortality, but the small number each year does, it is thought, correctly indicate a much smaller maternal mortality rate amongst textile women than amongst women of similar status in other spheres. This contention is supported by figures obtained from a Sholapur Mill. Only 2 deaths of mothers occurred out of 160 confinements. Of the 170 children born, 3 were still born and 16 died within a short period. Both the maternal and infantile death rates are low and the opinion of Dr. Balfour, who conducted an independent enquiry, that, amongst industrial women, confinements are usually of a normal nature, with a comparatively low maternal death rate, is confirmed by the above figures.

The Act in securing adequate rest and a measure of financial assistance has been of great value to factory women and the figures are doubtless some reflection of this.

T. W. JOHNSTONE,
Chief Inspector of Factories,
Bombay Presidency.

Factory Inspection Office,
Old Custom House, Fort,
Bombay, 21st September 1933.

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Statement accompanying the Administration Report on the working of the Bombay Maternity Benefit Act, 1929, for the year ending June 1933.

Town or District	Average number of women employed daily.	Number of women who claimed maternity benefits, section 6 (1).	Number of women who were paid maternity benefits for actual births.	Number of other persons who were paid maternity benefits, section 7.	Total amount of maternity benefit paid.	Claims paid per 100 women employed.	Claims paid per 100 women employed in the year ending 30th June 1932.	Remarks
					Rs. a. p.			
Bombay ...	26,472	2,445	2,210	23	51,420 7 2	8·4	6·8	
Thana ...	337	3	3	.....	57 0 0	0·8	.....	
Bombay Suburban ...	2,496	311	296	.....	6,584 8 0	11·9	13·1	
Ahmedabad ...	11,815	2,431	2,121	15	50,804 4 0	18·0	17·8	
Viramgam ...	316	40	29	.....	649 8 0	9·1	10·8	
Broach ...	463	49	26	.....	627 8 0	5·6	6·9	
Kaira ...	219	72	64	.....	1,507 8 0	29·2	6·3	
Surat ...	303	26	25	.....	5·9 8 0	8·3	9·9	
East Khandesh ...	953	196	104	1	2,376 0 0	11·0	6·5	
West Khandesh ...	655	19	14	.....	265 8 0	2·9	1·2	
Poona ...	100	1	1	.....	24 8 0	1·0	.....	
Sholapur ...	4,406	693	648	2	16,042 8 0	14·8	13·2	
Belgaum ...	25	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Dharwar ...	779	124	116	.....	2,715 8 0	14·9	6·3	
Karachi ...	503	101	93	.....	2,149 0 0	18·3	15·3	
Total ...	49,672	6,514	5,749	41	1,35,813 8 2	11·7	10·2	

Factory Inspection Office,
Old Custom House, Fort,
Bombay, 21st September 1933.

T. W. JOHNSTONE,
Chief Inspector of Factories,
Bombay Presidency.